

# Nancy Johnson



Fifth District, Connecticut

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 23, 2004

Contact: Brian Schubert

(202) 225-4476

## Johnson: Grant Helps Meriden Families in Need

*Strongly Supported Bonding for Chrysalis Domestic Violence Shelter*

MERIDEN, CT -- Congresswoman Nancy Johnson today applauded the decision to grant state bond funds to Meriden's Chrysalis domestic violence shelter. The \$235,000 grant will help Chrysalis purchase a new building to house its shelter and improve services.

In a letter to Governor M. Jodi Rell, Johnson signaled her strong support for the funding and urged its placement on the agenda for the next State Bond Commission meeting.

***"This is a tremendous boost for Chrysalis and the community," Johnson said. "I strongly supported this funding because Chrysalis and its staff provide important and compassionate services for children and families in need. It is a crucial part of Meriden's social service network and their efforts on behalf of the community are invaluable."***

Johnson has long supported the Chrysalis center, working with it and state advocates last year to keep Chrysalis open and under local control.

The text of Johnson's letter to Governor Rell is below.

November 22, 2004

Governor M. Jodi Rell  
State Capitol  
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Governor Rell:

I would like to bring to your attention a request for \$200,000 in state bonding money submitted by the Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis to the State Bonding Commission for consideration at their December 10th meeting.

Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis assists victims of domestic abuse and is in need of a new facility to house its women's shelter. The existing shelter is too small and has a host of problems including electrical, plumbing and heating issues. Chrysalis is expecting to close on a new property that will better serve women and children in need and to date they have raised an impressive \$265,000 which is about half of what is needed to buy and renovate the house.

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I have seen first-hand the work that the Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis does on a daily basis. Under the guidance of Mr. Jack Brooks, the Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis has provided essential service to women and children when they are most in need. I have long been impressed with Mr. Brooks vision and commitment to the mission of Chrysalis and fully support his efforts to acquire a shelter that will be an enormous improvement over the current facility.

Governor Rell, I respectfully request that every consideration be given to the Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis application for assistance and I would be happy to discuss this important project with you to answer any questions you may have.

I have attached a fact sheet for your review and I thank you in advance for your time and interest in this project.

Very truly yours,

Nancy L. Johnson  
Member of Congress

NLJ:kbh

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